

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 26 as follows. Please cancel claim 20.

1. (Fourth Amendment) A method of forming diamond crystals or a diamond film comprising disposing a substrate in a reaction chamber;
introducing, in the absence of a gas stream, a liquid precursor substantially free of water and containing methanol and at least one carbon and oxygen containing compound having a carbon to oxygen ratio greater than one into an inlet of the reaction chamber;
vaporizing the liquid precursor; and
subjecting the vaporized precursor, in the absence of a carrier gas, to a plasma under conditions effective to disassociate the vaporized precursor and promote diamond growth on the substrate.
- Sub 7*

26. (First Amendment) The method of claim 25, wherein producing diamond crystals or diamond films includes:
promoting diamond growth, in the absence of a carrier gas, at a rate between about 1 micrometer and 2.7 micrometers per hour.
- Sub 7*

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